Town of Lincoln

Budget Board Meeting

April 9, 2012

#### **Present:**

Linda Noble Paul DiDomenico Bob Turner Richard Foster
Mike Babbitt Domenic Ricci Carl Brunetti Claudette Lussier
Maria Marcello Hagop Jawharjian

### **Absent:**

William DiBiasio

### Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Minutes**

The minutes of April 4th were distributed for review.

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci to accept the minutes.

The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

The minutes of April 5th were distributed for review.

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded by Maria Marcello, to accept the minutes.

The minute were accepted by a vote of 7-0 with Claudette Lussier,

Richard Foster, and Domenic Ricci abstaining because they were not present on April 5th.

# Correspondence

The Budget Board received written correspondence from Jay O'Grady regarding any opinion received by the Town Council from the Solicitor regarding the Council appropriating funds.

He noted that he did not have any information regarding that.

The Budget Board received answers from the Town Administrator regarding information requests for the proposed resolutions.

There was no scope of work included for the canopy at the Senior Center bocce court.

The Administrator responded that the rescue equipment will be worth a total of \$136,000 but the total did not add up, so the Budget Board still wanted clarification of how much it would be worth.

It was noted by the Administrator that it was correct that the Town would pay \$34,000 and would receive \$136,000 worth of equipment.

There was information included regarding the Sewer Bond that will be expiring, and the Budget Board had questions about where it was reflected in the current year operating budget because the interest was transferred over but not the principal.

The Budget Board is still waiting for a response to a request for the addendum and information from the audit.

The tax rate change and levy values will be coming from the Finance Director.

The summary of the Police Detail Account to be attached to the back of the budget for the Financial Town Meeting was received.

The Budget Board did receive information from the Water Commission, but has not yet received a response to the request for them to meet with the Budget Board.

Also included in the budget book for informational purposes will be fund balances for the capital funds.

#### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment or questions at the time.

### **Discussion/Final Vote**

**Town Operating Budget** 

It was noted that for salaries, it was a 4.04% increase which represented a 2% for the past year and 2% compounded for the coming year.

The Budget Board discussed adding a footnote to explain the increases.

The Budget Board reviewed the parts of the budget that had not yet been voted on.

In Capital, the Budget Board discussed that for the trucks that the

Town wanted to purchase they did not receive specifications or estimates to go with the request.

For Road Repairs, the Budget Board did not receive a list of the roads that need work or a schedule.

The Budget Board will wait to analyze Capital until Revenues have been reviewed, which will be received by the Finance Director by the next meeting.

In Debt Service, the Budget Board still had a question remaining that had not been answered.

Bob Turner made a motion, seconded by Hagop Jawharjian, that Debt Service be recommended at \$3,919,270.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

# Resolutions

**Technology/Media Center** 

The Budget Board discussed separating the resolution so that any additional funds received by the state could be rebated to the Town to offset the cost of this project.

They discussed if it would be possible to have a separate resolution for \$1.6 million for the majority of the program, and another for \$600,000 but only as contingent on if the schools do not receive the grant they applied for.

According to the School Department, the Town would not be eligible for the reimbursement if they appropriate the money and install the program before any bonds are awarded.

The Budget Board wanted to know RIDE's official written information regarding this, and whether the Town would be able to appropriate the money but not install the program so that they do not risk any additional money they may be able to receive.

### **Resolution XII - Lime Acres**

The Budget Board discussed how the grants of \$175,000 should show as revenue with the total project being \$525,000.

The Town has been unofficially awarded the grant.

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Carl Brunetti, to amend the resolution.

The amended resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

# Resolution XI - Rescue Equipment

The Budget Board discussed the \$34,000, with \$102,000 in grants, which makes the total \$136,000.

It was not clear whether the Town would receive \$102,000 or whether that was part of a grant that would be shared among communities.

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Carl Brunetti, to approve the resolution.

The resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

# Resolution VIII - Road Repairs

The Budget Board discussed the \$150,000 in additional funding in the operating budget.

The Budget Board did not receive a list of what roads need repair and

the schedule of regular repairs and maintenance.

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Carl Brunetti, to approve the resolution as amended.

The resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

#### Resolution XIII - Removal of Modulars

Carl Brunetti made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, to approve the amended resolution.

The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

## Resolution VI - School Capital

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, to approve the resolution.

The Budget Board discussed whether they wanted to apply a figure to each project, or just a total for each school.

They decided to keep a total for each school with information attached as to what those totals include.

The resolution was approved by a vote of 7-3 with Richard Foster, Mike Babbitt and Domenic Ricci opposed.

### Resolution I

Carl Brunetti made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, to approve the resolution.

The Budget Board discussed the wording of the resolution, which had been changed in recent years.

The Budget Board deferred voting on this resolution pending

research of previously proposed wording.

#### **Resolution II**

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, to approve the resolution.

The resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

### Resolution III

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded by Hagop Jawharjian, to approve the resolution.

The resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

#### Resolution IV

The Budget Board deferred voting on Resolution IV until the rest of the budget has been voted upon.

#### Resolution V

Hagop Jawharjian made a motion, seconded by Richard Foster, to approve the resolution.

The resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

Chet Nichols Field/Manville Park Supplemental Resolution Discussion The Budget Board discussed having a paragraph about these projects in the budget message.

Also discussed was whether speaking to it in the budget message is enough, or whether the Budget Board should submit a supplemental resolution for the expenditures of these projects.

The Town Administrator and Solicitor still have not proven where and how the authority was given to the Town Council to expend for those projects that were not budgeted.

The Budget Board discussed supplemental resolutions and their purpose in place of Special Financial Town Meetings, and they discussed the precedent that would be set if there is not a supplemental resolution.

The Budget Board discussed the school surplus and the fact that they have never received copies of the laws that allow the schools to expend those funds.

# **Budget Inclusions**

The Budget Board discussed what will need to be included as addendum to the budget book for the Financial Town Meeting.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment or questions at the time.

## **Adjourn**

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Maria Marcello, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm.